GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4957
ANSWERED ON:31.03.2017
Organ Donation Racket
Gopal Dr. K.;Meinya Dr. Thokchom;Mohan Shri P. C.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that due to our stringent law pertaining to organ donation there exists a wide spread organ donation racket throughout the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has received any report or complaints regarding the sale of human organs for monetary considerations and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to relax the relevant laws and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is having any proposal to set up National Human Organ Donation Bank to facilitate the transplantation of human organs without involvement of any middleman and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether NOTTO will establish an online network between organ retrieval, transplant centres and issue banks across the country and maintain a digital national registry of donors and transplants and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether it is also true that the Government is considering to integrate trauma care with organ donation programme and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)
(a) & (b): Government is aware of the incidents involving illegal commercial transactions concerning organ donation. Health is a State subject and steps for prevention and control of any such cases are required to be taken by the State Governments. Whenever a complaint is brought to the notice of the Department of Health and Family Welfare, the same is forwarded to States concerned and the Ministry of Home Affairs for action. Details of all such cases are, however not maintained centrally.

(c): At present, there is no proposal to relax the law.

(d) Organs are usually not stored and they have to be transplanted as soon as possible after retrieval. However, tissues such as cornea, skin, bone, etc. may be stored for a longer time and require banking facility. A provision has been made for setting up one National Biomaterial Centre (Tissue Bank) at National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO), Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi where major part of the infrastructure work has been completed.

(e): As per Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994 (as amended) and Rules framed thereunder, the Central Government has been given the mandate to maintain the National registry of donors and recipients of human organs and tissues. NOTTO has been set up to maintain this registry. NIC has been entrusted with the responsibility to establish an online system of networking in respect of Organs and Tissues from deceased/cadaver donors and their allocation and distribution in a transparent manner.

(f): National Organ Transplant Programme provides for integration of trauma centres with organ donation.